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TRICARE for Reserve Components Deployed for OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM / NOBLE EAGLE

If you are a member of the reserve component (Reserves or National Guard) activated in the U.S. and deployed to the TRICARE Europe Area of Responsibility (Europe, Africa, and the Middle East) for Operations Enduring Freedom or Noble Eagle, the following information is provided should you have questions or concerns about your health care coverage:

- **Stateside enrollment.** If you are a reserve component member activated in the U.S. and deployed overseas in support of Operation Enduring Freedom/Noble Eagle, you will be enrolled at your mobilization/inprocessing point in the states. Regardless of your overseas deployment duration, this enrollment will not be transferred to TRICARE Europe. Your enrollment will be accomplished through your mobilized unit. Your unit should also provide you with information and materials to help answer your health care questions.
- **Your benefit.** As a member of the reserve component, you are entitled to medical care in a military treatment facility (MTF) for any injury, illness or disease incurred or aggravated in the line of duty. When activated for more than 30 days, you become eligible for TRICARE Prime. All care should be sought from an MTF or, if authorized, from a host nation provider.
- **DEERS Enrollment Critical.** If you are called to active duty for more than 30 days, you and your family are eligible for TRICARE. To ensure family members are eligible for TRICARE upon activation, sponsors must register their family members in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS). DEERS information may be verified or updated by contacting or visiting your nearest uniformed services personnel office.
- **30 days or less.** If you are overseas for 30 days or less and need to seek medical care at a MTF overseas, you will need to show your orders to make an appointment.
- **Where to send the bill.** If you receive emergency/urgent or authorized medical care from a host nation provider in the TRICARE Europe network, you will normally *not have to worry about filing your claim* – your provider will take care of that for you. In the *rare case* that you do need to file a claim yourself, take your claim paperwork and bill to your nearest TRICARE Service Center or call the Centralized TSC (see contact numbers next page).
- **What if you get a check in the mail?** In rare cases, you may receive a check in the mail from TRICARE. Don't keep it! This money is intended to pay for care you received from a host nation provider overseas. If this happens to you, please contact your nearest TSC for help. *Anytime* you receive care from a host nation provider while deployed overseas, it is a good

idea to write down the name and contact information for your provider. This will help us ensure that proper payment is made to your provider.

- **Family member coverage.** Family members of reserve component members become eligible for TRICARE Standard and TRICARE Extra on the first day of the military sponsor's active duty if his or her orders are for more than 30 consecutive days (or for an indefinite period). Eligible family members may enroll in TRICARE Prime if their sponsor is called to active duty for 179 days or more. There are no enrollment fees or co-payments for family members, but enrollment forms must be completed. MTFs or TRICARE Prime network providers must be used.
- **TRICARE Prime may not be best for all family members.** Many reserve component families may have established relationships with providers who are not in the TRICARE Prime network. In these cases, enrolling in TRICARE Prime may not be the best choice — instead, TRICARE Standard may be the most flexible and economical option.
- **TRICARE Dental Program.** Members of the Selected Reserve and Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) and/or their families may enroll in the TDP. Reserve component members who are ordered to active duty for more than 30 consecutive days are eligible for military dental care — the same as active duty service members — and are automatically disenrolled from the TDP if previously enrolled. Members should be automatically re-enrolled upon termination of their orders, but to ensure coverage they should check with United Concordia Companies Inc. (UCCI), at 1-800-866-8499, before seeking treatment. The TDP requires a minimum twelve-month enrollment period; however, that commitment is waived for families of reservists called to active duty for certain contingency operations. Reservists who are called to active duty for more than 30 days must first disenroll if enrolled in the program and then they may reenroll their family members as if they are active duty.
- **When your deployment ends.** When you are no longer on active duty orders (i.e. when you go back home), TRICARE eligibility ends; however, line-of-duty care may be received in a MTF for injuries or illnesses incurred while you were on active duty. Members ordered to active duty in support of a contingency operation and their family members may be eligible for transitional health care for 60 to 120 days, depending on their total active federal military service. Contact your TRICARE Health Service Region back home for more information.

If you have a TRICARE question or problem while deployed overseas, call or stop by your nearest TRICARE Service Center. You can find the number for your local TSC at

www.europe.tricare.osd.mil/benefit/tsclist.asp. If you are in a remote location, contact TRICARE toll-

free in Europe at 866-TEurope, DSN 496-6374, CIV 0049-6302-67-6374, or email

TEUROPE@europe.tricare.osd.mil. More information is also available at www.tricare.osd.mil/reserve.

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